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JOHN H. B. LATROBE, ESQ.

This distinguished citizen and devoted friend of Africa, who died in Baltimore, September 11, 1891, was born in Philadelphia, May 4, 1803; obtained his education at Georgetown and St Mary's colleges, and at West Point, which latter institution he left at the head of the first class, on the death of his father, in 1822, when he entered the office of Gen. Robert Goodloe Harper as a student of law. Admitted in 1825 to the Bar in Baltimore, Mr. Latrobe rapidly advanced in his profession and continued an active lawyer for sixty-six years.

Gen. Harper was one of the originators of African colonization. In 1823 Mr. Latrobe made the first map of Liberia from the description of Dr. Eli Ayres, the nomenclature of which was called by General Harper and Mr. Latrobe, the two alternating in the choice of names, General Harper naming the country Liberia, Mr. Latrobe, the chief town Monrovia. About this time he equipped, at General Harper's expense, Mr. Abel Hurd to attempt to find the outlet of the Niger by striking the river due north from Monrovia and descending to its mouth, the same plan afterwards successfully pursued by the Landers.

Mr. Latrobe was the active member of the Executive Committee in charge of African colonization in Maryland, superintending some of the earliest expeditions; was zealous in obtaining the aid of the State to Liberian emigration, first by an appropriation

of \$1,000 per annum, afterwards by a grant of \$200,000, subsequently increased to \$250,000; was prominent in originating the Maryland State Colonization Society in 1831, and projected and ultimately carried out the plan of a colony at Cape Palmas to be called Maryland in Liberia, now Maryland county, preparing its bill of rights and the constitution and ordinance for its temporary government.

Mr. Latrobe was at first corresponding secretary of the Maryland State Colonization Society; then for many years and until 1853 its president, when on the death of Hon. Henry Clay, he was chosen the fifth president of the American Colonization Society. He adorned the position with dignity and administrative ability, while his promptness, courtesy, and decision made him the model of a presiding officer.

Mr. Latrobe's frequent addresses, published articles, and even poetical effusions testify to his untiring industry, signal ability, and warm devotion to the interests of the African race through colonization.



THE WESTERN MAHDI AND LIBERIA.

The troops of Samuda, the Mohammedan conqueror, called the Mahdi of Western Soudan, have been for several months and were up to our latest advices operating in the interior of Liberia, but in a friendly spirit, suppressing the pagan tribes, who have for many years obstructed the highways between Liberia and the great trading marts on the east of the Republic. We learn that this chief is anxious to enter into relations of amity with Liberia, and it is expected that the new administration which will assume the Government three months hence will take steps to carry out this wise and sagacious policy.

If the roads between Liberia and the country of the Western

Mandingoes can be kept open a very valuable trade in cattle, gold, gums, ivory, and rubber would flow into the Republic.

The partition of Africa is not yet finally settled, for the new agreement of England with France and Portugal, if not that with Italy, require delimitation journeys, which will be practically explorations before they are complete, and Liberia should have a word to say about her *Hinterland* before the "partition" is settled. The United States has not yet agreed to the unwarrantable division by strangers of that vast continent with its numerous tribes.

THE NEW LIBERIA.

AN ADDRESS DELIVERED AT THE CELEBRATION OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE OF LIBERIA,
AT CLAY-ASHLAND, ST. PAUL'S RIVER, JULY 26, 1890,
BY HON. THOMAS C. LOMAX.

Friends and Fellow Citizens: I am before you to-day in the capacity of a public speaker. I assure you it is not from any preference of my own, for I would much rather have the pleasure of hearing an address from some one more accustomed to dealing with the subject of nations than myself. Some men, it is said, are born great, others have greatness thrust upon them. So if indeed the position which I to-day occupy is a great one, it has been thrust upon me. To-day we celebrate the forty-third anniversary of the birth of the Republic of Liberia.

When this little ship of state was launched there were large hopes entertained by some of her friends of her success on the sea of nationality; but there were also on the part of others serious fears and anxieties as to her ability to brave the storms that she would naturally have to encounter. These fears and anxieties arose from the fact that she was constructed in haste, and her officers and crew were inexperienced and unskillful. We have been trying, experimenting, and attempting to do what we had never earnt; constantly making and repealing laws.

Well, in looking back to-day over a period of forty-three years

and viewing the situation, we are compelled to exclaim, "What hath God wrought!" and I take pleasure in inviting your attention on this occasion to "THE NEW LIBERIA."

Our history has been a mysterious one. All the hopes entertained of the Republic have not been fulfilled; nor have all the fears been realized. We have achieved successes in directions in which we did not expect, and we have encountered dangers from quarters in which we did not look for them; but out of all, in spite of the perils of an untried and boisterous sea, in spite of the ignorance of citizens and rulers, Liberia still exists, and to-day we have reached a height from which we can look forward and catch glimpses of the fields of prosperity which lie before us in the distance. We have reached a height also from which looking back upon the lowlands behind us, the swamps and marshes through which we have passed, we can thank God and take courage.

But what is Liberia whose anniversary we so proudly celebrate to-day? Let us look first at our *domain*.

Our territory extends from Manoh river on the northwest, about sixty miles above Monrovia, to the San Pedro on the southeast, about seventy miles below Cape Palmas, giving us a coast line of about five hundred miles with an interior three hundred miles deep, or an area of one hundred and fifty thousand square miles, containing some of the finest and most healthy regions in Africa. Add to this a soil of surprising fertility, yielding all the great tropical articles of commerce—coffee, sugar, cocoa, rubber, indigo, palm oil, etc., and the indications on every hand of valuable minerals below the surface. Bishop Taylor, who has traveled in all parts of the world, calls Liberia "the garden spot of West Africa." Here then we have the basis of national prosperity equal to that of any other country. So much then for the country which the Lord has given us as the place of our abode.

Now what about the population? Here, again, we are peculiarly blessed. From Manoh river to the San Pedro and from Monrovia to Musardu our domain is inhabited by some of the finest and most intelligent tribes in Africa, numbering over two

millions, and nowhere among them do we hear of the savagery which we are told exists among tribes below the equator. Everywhere our aboriginal population live in towns, cultivate the soil, manufacture cloth and various domestic wares, raise cattle, work in iron and gold, and engage in large trade, except a few fragments of tribes on our immediate borders who occasionally indulge in raids upon one another; but these are readily amenable to our government. Of the great tribes in our territory we have the Mandingoes, who are the chief agriculturists, manufacturers, and traders in the interior, their influence extending far beyond lake Chad on the east and to the great desert on the north. By means of these people we can easily have access to all parts of the Soudan. Then we have the Veys, that intelligent and fine looking people, said to be related to the Mandingoes. That tribe inhabits the whole of the Cape Mount country. The Veys are one of the few people in the whole world who have invented an alphabet of their own and use it in writing their own language, both for books and correspondence. Then we have the large agricultural tribes, Golahs, Pessehs, and Bassas, who furnish the willing and laborious multitude, without whom our agriculture would be well nigh impossible.

Next we have that large and important tribe, the Kroo, with its different varieties of stalwart and hard-working men, occupying over a hundred miles of our coast. The reputation of these people for hard and persistent labor is known all over the world. Lord Wolseley utilized them in his Egyptian expedition, and Lesseps in the Panama canal. They furnish the crew for vessels of all sorts which ply along the coast for two thousand miles. Without them the vast trade now carried on on the coast by means of steamers would be impossible. They are masters of the dangerous surf and skillful pilots of the treacherous bars.

You will see then that we have a population adapted to the sea, and large tribes whose home is in the boundless interior.

Now, the next in number of the Liberian population, and some might say the first in importance, are ourselves, the Americo-Liberians, so-called. This term is used until a better one can be found to designate the exiles returned from the house of bondage in America.

It was owing to the knowledge of the ways and customs and of the religion and civilization which we brought back from the land of our exile that we have been able to construct the nation whose anniversary we are met to celebrate.

Our fathers, fresh from the depressing influences of the house of bondage, were inexperienced in national affairs; but after only 27 years of colonial training they felt themselves competent to assume the direction of their own affairs, and on the 26th day of July, 1848, declared themselves a free, sovereign, and independent state under the name and style of the *Republic of Liberia*.

The mother country from which we came, owing to her peculiar institution at the time, could not give official recognition to this movement of ours; but Great Britain, that magnanimous nation which has done so much for Africa, stepped forward and gave us the hand of welcome; other nations followed until now we stand before the world with our independence fully guaranteed and in treaty relations with all the civilized Powers. For forty-three years then we have maintained our position.

It would have been surprising if during that period we had made no mistakes. We have made mistakes, many and grave. But the hopeful thing in our history is that all through the period of our blundering there were those among us who saw those mistakes and kept the national intellect and conscience alive to them.

We have made a mistake in the first place as to ourselves. We came from America with a crushed manhood and the race-feeling almost extinguished—the sense of race work, race ability, and race destiny was dormant.

We hardly knew what we were here for. We only knew, as we say with only a partial truth in our national motto, that “The love of liberty brought us here;” that we came here as to an asylum for shelter from oppression. We did not understand that we were here to be masters of the situation. We did not understand or recognize the fact that we were here to build up a distinct Negro nationality; to bring in the surrounding tribes, and make one with them in working out our destiny; to do a work for Africa and for humanity which only Negroes could do. Therefore, we halted here on the unhealthy coast and peeped into the

interior, afraid of the natives and suspicious of them. We kept our eyes steadily towards America, looking for help from there to build up a sort of nondescript American nation on this coast. We cultivated foreign tastes and by this brought weakness and division upon ourselves in church, state, and society.

As a result of our false theory of life, as I have said, we kept aloof from the natives; we did not encourage them or try to understand them and sympathize with them. We availed ourselves of their labor, but we thought we had no further use for them than to help us build up this nation, as we helped to build up the Southern States of America for the white man. We didn't understand that it was our duty and our privilege to push into the interior, annexing the tribes with their territories. We did not know that if we had the power and the will to push to the heart of Soudan no European power could in fairness object to our occupation in that way of the land of our fathers. But we also dreaded the *foreigner*. We shut up from him the country through fear of impositions.

Notwithstanding the generous aid which England gave us when we started on our national career, and though there were always Englishmen in the darkest days of the history of our bondage who spoke for us when we could not speak for ourselves, yet we suspected all foreigners and counted our English benefactors with the rest. But, as I have said, there have always been, especially within recent years, enlightened men among us who pointed out the mistakes as to ourselves, as to our aboriginal brethren, and as to foreigners.

The labors of these men are beginning to bear fruit. We are beginning to understand our origin and destiny, whence we came and whither we are going. Some years ago we were like a man finding himself in a vast plain, not knowing what point of the compass he came from nor what point he was going to. Such a man must be in a state of bewilderment and uncertainty. He can not advance with any feelings of safety. He is suspicious of every advice given him as to his movements.

Thus it was with Liberia in days gone by. But now we are reaching some definite understanding. We know we are Negroes—descendants of men torn unjustly from this country and

carried into bondage. We know that we are not Europeans nor Americans. We know we have a definite standing in the world; with definite relations to Europe, to America, and to our fatherland. We know that we have a better right to the vast regions of Africa than any other race, and we are now disposed to avail ourselves of that right.

Behold in all events the permission or the appointment of God. We must believe that the will of God controls all events. In looking over the scenes of history as well as those of nature, let us realize the thought that all we see is governed by one controlling will—one infinitely wise and benevolent mind. This thought gives to Liberia additional interest and grandeur in the eyes of others. There is no pleasure in the idea of chance. It is not only irreligious but a repulsive negation—a sterile, hideous conception. On the contrary, how delightful it is to look upon the revolutions of empire; the discoveries of science; the invention of arts; the conflicts of systems; the progress of society; and realize in all these the operation of an ever-present, omniscient intellect, and thus feel ourselves in the great workshop or laboratory of the all-wise, all-good, all-powerful Artificer. As we understand these things we find the key to the situation and we shall open for ourselves mighty channels of influence and success. We shall learn the proper policy towards the interior and towards foreigners.

For the important changes in our views, for the vast improvements I have referred to, we have great causes for thanksgiving and congratulations to-day.

I know that while I have been speaking many of you have had in your mind the recent forward movement which our government has made in admitting a company of influential Englishmen to certain privileges in the country. "The Liberian Government Concessions and Exploration Company, limited," with its objects for development and progress, is hailed by every enlightened citizen of this Republic.

In our work of civilization on this continent we shall now have the coöperation of men who, with their skill and their capital, will help us to push this nation on to the fulfillment of her great destiny. I learn that the men who have purchased the rubber con-

cession have in view other great enterprises which will place Liberia in line with the advancing nations. I am told that it is probable they will establish a railway to the far interior, thus making accessible to us the beautiful and salubrious highlands on the east of us and bring to our doors the cattle, the horses, the gold, the ivory, the various gums, the cotton, and the beeswax which abound only a few days' journey from us.

Fellow citizens, in conclusion let us humbly congratulate ourselves on the fact that we celebrate the forty-third anniversary of Liberia's independence with such bright prospects ahead. It is not too much to hope that when seven years hence we celebrate the semi-centennial anniversary of the Republic, the natives at Musardu and Medina may join us in the celebration, while caravans from remote regions may come to Boporo and other great centres in the interior to celebrate that event.

DARKEST AFRICA AND THE WAY IN.

The way into Africa has for thousands of years been a perplexing problem to outsiders. Monarchs and their armies have perished in their attempts to solve it. Julius Cæsar offered to surrender his prospects of earthly glory if he could be shown the source of the mysterious Nile—the wonderful river which gave to the world Egypt with its marvelous achievements. Cambyses the Persian and Alexander the Greek, both with invincible troops, acknowledged themselves incapable of surmounting the barriers by which nature has protected the continent. Only to the gods the Greeks conceded the power of penetrating the country of the Ethiopians and enjoying themselves therein.

But Europe has been again seized with the mania for possessing Africa, and this mania has reached its acute form only within the last decade. "When I left office in 1880," says Lord Salisbury, "nobody thought of Africa. When I returned to it in 1885 the nations of Europe were almost quarrelling with each other about the various portions of Africa they could obtain."

But we believe that this latest effort will meet with greater success than any in the past, because the experience which in a few

years will be gained by the costly experiments in lives and money now being made will lead to the discovery of the truth—viz., that the only effective way into Darkest Africa is by means of the millions of her sons who are now in exile in the Western Hemisphere.

Some object to the return of these exiles on the ground of its impracticability. The numbers, they say, are too great to be carried across the sea. But we see it announced lately that that wealthy and magnanimous Jew, Baron Hirsch, proposes to take five millions of Jews at his own expense out of the countries of their oppression in Europe and transport them to South America; while in a recent letter of great force Mr. Gladstone advocates their deportation to Palestine, the original home of their race.

The world is moving. It is not necessary for the work to be done in Africa that all the exiled Negroes should be returned, but it is necessary, it is indispensable, that large numbers should be brought back. This is the only solution of the two-fold problem which confronts philanthropy, commerce, and politics, viz., the inconvenient and menacing presence of the Negro in America, and the climatic and other obstacles in the way of the civilization of Africa.

Sagacious minds both in Europe and America foresaw a century ago the true method of solving the great problem; hence the existence of Sierra Leone and Liberia—both founded by returned exiles or the descendants of those who had been torn away.

Europe was beginning to blush for the iniquity of the slave trade. She has since then striven to make ample returns; but the final return will be in the great restoration of the descendants of the exiles and the ample provision for their safe and comfortable settlement in the land of their fathers. But who shall repay us for the millions who perished amid the horrors of the Middle Passage? Meanwhile the difficulties in the way of purely European effort will be simply insurmountable.

Missionary societies both in England and America have long felt the need of efficient Negro laborers for their work in Africa. That venerable organization, the Church Missionary Society, which has expended so liberally both of men and money in this work, saw, more than sixty years ago, the importance of carrying

on their work by means of returned Negroes from the West ; and the S. P. G. founded the mission at Rio Pongo with that idea. In 1826, ten years after the establishment of the C. M. S. missions in this colony, the secretary of the Society, who had himself visited Sierra Leone, addressed the following letter to Bishop White, at that time the senior Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States. In view of the present tendencies of thought Mr. Bickersteth's letter will be interesting and suggestive :—

CHURCH MISSIONARY HOUSE,
LONDON, *October 25, 1826.*

MY DEAR SIR:—The Committee of the Church Missionary Society having lost many valuable lives in Africa, have turned attention to a supply of teachers better fitted than Europeans to encounter the insalubrity of its climate. They have been strongly recommended to endeavor to procure persons of colour for this service ; and have been led to suppose that there may be many such in America, who have the requisite piety, talent, and knowledge to fit them for such an office.

Their duty would be the religious instruction of the liberated Africans congregated in Sierra Leone from all parts of Africa. For this purpose the persons to be employed must be well acquainted with the English language, and able to read, write, and speak it correctly.

They must also possess a good knowledge of the Holy Scriptures, and cordially approve of the Articles and Liturgy of the Church of England, and be willing to conform to them in their whole conduct.

But the most important qualification for this service is intelligent, decided, and mature piety, with a sound judgment and a heart devoted to God, clearly holding the doctrines peculiar to the Gospel and longing to make them known as widely as possible. We shall be much obliged if you will inform us whether there be in your knowledge any persons of this description who would be willing to devote themselves wholly to labour in Africa to diffuse the Gospel. It might not probably be difficult for such persons to obtain ordination from the bishop of the sister Church in America before they left America. Such persons should pledge themselves to submit to the directions of the society as to the stations in which they may labour and their general conduct.

The remuneration of their services would be sufficient for their comfortable support ; but, on this point, and any other connected with the design, we shall be glad to have your full and free sentiments. I am, dear sir, faithfully yours,

EDWARD BICKERSTETH,
Secretary C. M. Society.

Right Rev. Bishop WHITE, &c., &c.

The most recent utterance of a foreign missionary in this field has just come to hand in the forty-sixth annual report of the Southern Baptist Convention in the United States. This Convention has been carrying on missionary work in the Yoruba country for the last forty years, and in the early periods of their labors did very good work. Among the first literary fruits of the mission was "A Grammar and Dictionary of the Yoruba Language," by Rev. T. J. Bowen, published by the Smithsonian Institution, at Washington, December, 1858. This is an elaborate and very valuable work, but at present difficult to obtain. Most of their native converts have recently set up a church for themselves at Lagos. We make the following extracts from the report before us:

The African missions are in a languishing and unpromising condition. There are elements of trouble which all the wisdom and prudence of missionaries and Board have not been able to overcome. These troubles grow largely out of "race prejudice," as the African converts are as restive under white supervision as are their brethren in race in this country. One trouble confronting our work in Africa is the proposed organization of an undenominational African church. The distinguished Negro, Dr. Edward W. Blyden, has visited Lagos in the interest of this movement. He advocates such a church, but its platform is so broad that even our schismatic brethren fear to take stand upon it lest their Baptist principles be entirely swallowed up.

Our missionary in Lagos, the Rev. C. C. Newton, after a careful study of the situation, has announced his conclusions as follows: 1. That Africa must be evangelized by Africans. 2. That Providence indicates that the evangelization should be done by Negroes from the Southern States of America. 3. That the white man should attempt no more than the general management of the work, yet giving support to large numbers of Negro missionaries. 4. That there should be some grand combination on the part of England and the United States for the extensive colonization of our Negroes in the best parts of their fatherland.

Mr. Newton is a white missionary "from the Southern States of America," and he has rightly pointed out the way into "Darkest Africa." The sphinx must solve her own riddle. The way into "Darkest Africa" is by means of her own dark children. This truth, as the years go on, will become more and more apparent to earnest workers for Africa's regeneration.—*The Sierra Leone Weekly News.*

FRANCE AND LIBERIA.

We published an announcement in our last from the English papers to the effect that the French had annexed nearly two hundred miles of coast line adjoining their Half Jack coast territory, and had declared the territory from St. Andreas to Cavally under French rule, but that part of the coast has been claimed by the Liberians for many years.

We are not in a position to state whether the French government gave notice to the Liberian government of its intention to annex the territory in question. But in these days of scramble those only can expect to be treated with courtesy and comity who are prepared to repel aggression.

We believe that the Liberians can show that they have treaties ceding to Liberia the territories from Cape Palmas to the San Pedro river of much older date than those held by the French, and they have been in trading relations with the people of Bereby and Half Bereby since 1834. The actual cession of the territory, however, took place in 1846.

Hon. John B. Russwurm, governor of Cape Palmas, made the following communication to the Maryland State Colonization Society, which founded that portion of Liberia:

CAPE PALMAS, *March 16, 1846.*

My letter by the brigantine *Kent* informed you that I had been invited to visit the Leeward coast, and I was likely to succeed in getting the kings and headman of Tabou, Bassa, Half Bereby, Graud Bereby, and Tahou to annex themselves and territories to Maryland in Liberia.

It will be gratifying to you and the Board to be informed, officially, that I have succeeded with all the above-named kings except Half Bereby, the king and headmen of which failed to appear at the grand palaver which I called at Bassa (King George's Town), on the 23d and 24th of February.

Since my return, King William of Half Bereby has sent up word that he would be at Cape Palmas in a few days to sign deeds of annexation as the other kings had done. I believe I informed you that he had visited me in January last, principally for this object.

I feel under obligations to Capt. Hunt, of the Palestine, who not only gave passage to myself, but to my suite also, consisting of King Freeman, Yellow Will, Secretary and Interpreter, and anchored one night to land us on the right spot in the morning. I feel bound to make him reasonable

satisfaction. To you on the other side of the Atlantic it may seem a small affair; but I assure you, to visit them in a large vessel, the master of which appeared interested in our ultimate success, was of material aid to us in talking the annexation palaver.

You are doubtless aware that the extension of our limits will cause for a time more expenditures on the part of your agent for dashes to kings and headmen, and a larger extension of credit to tradesmen resident in the new territory. For this last I am not quite prepared, as my trade capital is now quite small, and I owe five hundred dollars more than assets in hand on account of trade goods actually received.

I should feel encouraged if the Board would authorize me to draw for three thousand dollars this year to be expended solely in the purchase of English trade goods.

This would put me on my feet, as I could raise at least an equal sum, if not more, in produce, and purchase goods at fair rates by paying half bills and half produce.

Since this was commenced King William of Half Bereby, and headmen, have been here and given deeds of annexation, declaring themselves citizens of Maryland in Liberia. We now own all the beach from Garraway to the river Pedro, between Tahou and Druen.—I have the honor to be, your humble servant,

JNO. B. RUSSWURM.

In making this acquisition nearly fifty years ago it was not the bare territory that was considered important but the accession of energetic tribes who desired to cast in their lot with the Liberians, and to conform to the customs of civilization which the colonists had imported from America. It was not a sudden impulse, any love of novelty, or any desire for premiums which induced them to join their brethren returned from exile. Offers far more advantageous than the terms on which their territory was annexed to Liberia had been made them by foreigners, but they wanted nothing but commercial intercourse. The example, however, of the colonists, their character, and beneficial influence upon other tribes connected with them, induced these natives to become a part of what was then the Colony of Maryland in Liberia.

It will occasion surprise and grief to the friends of Africa in the United States when they hear of this new move on the part of the French which, it may be hoped, that when all the facts are ascertained, will be rectified.—*Sierra Leone Weekly News.*

A SIERRA LEONEAN AT MONROVIA.

The approach from the sea was most interesting. At first nothing but a dense forest was seen from the steamer, but as we gradually made our way in, the high roofs of a few houses peeped above the rest at a considerable distance, then a full show of a high hill, used for signalling purposes, on which also is built a light-house of moderate pretensions. As we steamed slowly on our course the full splendor of the town, which is built on a hill, opened itself before us and we rested our eyes on the capital of the first Negro Republic in West Africa. We soon anchored, and the mails for this port, unlike the practice at other ports, were taken on shore by the third officer of the vessel in the ship's surf-boat manned by kroo-boys. Monrovia has a splendid lagoon but it must be approached through a bar, which, however, is not so dangerous as other bars lower down the coast. Boats with oars can be used here, which is simply impossible in the other ports in consequence of the heavy swell which prevails.

Having joined a passenger who was going on shore we were rowed towards the bar which was crossed easily, and we entered into the peaceful lagoon which lends considerable beauty to the town.

I made my way on landing to the store of Mr. M. S. Boyle, who, though taken by surprise at my unexpected presence, heartily received me. Mr. Boyle, who had only a few days previously removed to a new and larger store, was very busy with the carpenter, ordering and directing. He seemed quite active, and still possesses the freshness and energy for which he was remarkable. Having gone through his letters which had arrived by the steamer, he did me the honor by calling with me on a few of the principal inhabitants of this noted republic. We called on Mr. and Mrs. Sherman, Mrs. Barclay, The Swedish and Norwegian Consul, and Mrs. Aenmey, Attorney-General Davis, Mrs. (Prof.) Blyden and family, Hon. C. T. O. King and Mrs. King, Sheriff Good, and on officers of the Liberian Concessions Company.

The public buildings attracted our attention next. The White House, the official residence of the President and family, is an

imposing building of two stories high. It has an elaborate veranda in the lower story which opens into the reception hall and other rooms. Leaving these we walked on to the Senate House and the Court of Quarter Sessions; two plain buildings of stone in which, I was told, very important political subjects are often discussed and many legal decisions on intricate cases arrived at.

Brief as was my visit at Monrovia, it was easy to observe that the natural resources of the country were abundant, and with capital and enterprise at her command the development of this infant Republic will be wonderful.—*Sierra Leone Weekly News.*

THEY WILL GO TO AFRICA.

Bishop Turner, of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, believing that the social prejudices against his race in this country will never be obliterated, thinks the colored race had better go to Africa. "The only remedy," he says, "is for the self-reliant, self-respecting Negro, conscious of his own worth, to return to the land of his fathers, taking his civilization and Christianity with him to establish civilized colonies and build up civilized nations in Africa." The bishop adds that thousands of Negro farmers, carpenters, blacksmiths, and machinists in the South are ready to go, and he thinks the Government should assist in the exodus.

Bishop Turner is correct when he says the sentiment is growing among the Southern Negroes in favor of emigration to Africa. The officers of the American Colonization Society at Washington assert that thousands are anxious to go as soon as they can arrange their affairs and secure the means of making the momentous and expensive change. Mr. Heli Chatelain, our commercial agent at Loando, also says that many hundreds of Southern Negroes are eager to go to Africa. Dr. Blyden, of Liberia, one of the most distinguished members of the Negro race, prophesies that "fifty years hence the current of African humanity setting eastward will be absolutely irresistible. With astonishing success," he writes, "has Liberia been able to impress the aborigi-

nal tribes in favor of her government and laws. The aborigines are getting to understand the political creed of the Republic and to sympathize with the national aims. They are beginning to look upon Liberia as their own, a social, political, and industrial commonwealth which includes them and contemplates their highest interests." The late Bishop Haven, after he had seen Africa, in 1877, wrote: "Let Liberia fill up her land with farms and she will conquer Africa."

The fact was recognized long ago that the American Negro can return to tropical Africa and live there in good health. In Liberia he suffers for a few months from slight attacks of fever, but he speedily becomes acclimated.—*New York Sun*.

COLONIZATION OF AFRICA BY AMERICAN NEGROES.

The prejudices of the natives against colonization, never very strong, will yield to fair and judicious treatment. But tropical Africa can not be colonized by "Caucasians," and it may well be in the divine statesmanship that the American freedman and none other is to save the brother in black and teach him to save himself. Liberia and its noteworthy success, despite every disadvantage, prove Negro colonization to be no Utopian scheme, and with regard to the Congo State Stanley assures us that if "American Negroes form the majority of its citizenship it would, with proper encouragement, make remarkable development and in time become a great nation. If these civilized blacks are developed morally, their contact with the savages would be happy." Signs are not wanting that among the Negroes of our New South not a few consider African evangelization their race duty; and that the wonder-working providence of American history anoints them as apostles to Ethiopia. The task would require comparatively few of the 7,000,000 black Americans, for if less than ten per cent. return, 500,000 chosen people would, within one century, accomplish the regeneration of their mother country. Such colonies will swiftly develop legitimate commerce and native industries among the fairly active and workable population.—*Frederick Perry Noble, in the Missionary Review*.

NEW ORLEANS ANNIVERSARY OF LIBERIA'S INDEPENDENCE.

The anniversary of the independence of Liberia was celebrated on Sunday evening, July 26, at the Tulane Avenue Baptist Church, New Orleans, Rev. A. S. Jackson, pastor.

The service opened at 7.30 o'clock with an organ voluntary. The opening devotions, conducted by the pastor, consisted of singing, the reading of appropriate selections from the scriptures, an earnest appeal to the throne of divine grace, and concluded with an anthem in which male and female voices were harmoniously blended.

Taking for his text the scriptural passage, "Ethiopia shall soon reach out her hands," the pastor delivered an eloquent address showing the progress of the colored race as exemplified in the Republic beyond the seas.

At the close of the address Mrs. Lyons sang "Purifying Fires," and then ex-Lieutenant Governor C. C. Antoine read aloud the Liberian declaration of independence.

An anthem well rendered by the choir and the pastor's benediction closed the service. The attendance was very large and the exercises were followed with the closest attention and interest.—*The Picayune.*

AMERICAN STEAMSHIPS IN THE AFRICAN TRADE.

The Europeans in their partitioning of Africa have decided that the "Dark Continent" and its trade are their very own by simple right of appropriation. In the discussions over the prospective growth of African development and trade very little, if any, account has been taken of the American factor. He is held to have all he wants of African exploits in the colored race which now forms so large a part of our population. But Americans have heard so much of the new Africa that is being opened to commerce, and it has been suggested to them so often—by some of their own people—that good chances exist there for them as well as for Europeans, that they are really taking the subject

under consideration. No big commercial trading companies are being formed here for African business. No big African railroad schemes are dangled before the eyes of American investors. And no tempting and glowing accounts are made of the great fortunes that will fall immediately into the hands of the American merchant who strikes for big stakes in the African opening. But there is a steady demand in Africa for goods of American manufacture. A small but sturdy trade exists between these shores and Africa. Outside of the comparatively few sailing vessels engaged in the direct trade, there is a constant stream of American goods finding the west coast of Africa by way of Hamburg and Liverpool.

To such proportions has this African trade arrived that report comes from Philadelphia of the prospect of the establishment of a steamship line between that port and the chief ports of the west coast of Africa. This company is not to start out with a great fleet or a loud flourish of trumpets. It is proposed to begin in a modest way, sending off before the end of this year one or two steamers and these chartered. The Philadelphia Board of Trade is said to be the main promoter of this enterprise. The American Colonization Society and the Philadelphia Colonization Society promise to give it substantial support. The two societies believe that the establishment of a steamship line will cause a large increase in the immigration of Negroes to Liberia and other parts of Africa, and that this in itself will not only help to promote the starting of the line, but from the trade that will follow upon this movement secure the support to the line in the future.

Our manufactures are forced by their increasing power of production to seek additional markets. Their tentative efforts in this direction have not shown great business sagacity, and they have calmly ignored the lessons taught by the experience of those who have gone before them. Still their own experience, small as it is, is beginning to have a little effect, and American manufactured articles are being more inquired after in foreign markets. They have forced a liking against great odds. In Africa especially they are being found side by side with European articles. And they are supplied by Europeans who get them chiefly by

way of Europe. This roundabout way of getting them causes a heavy additional freight charge, and the really unnecessary increased cost handicaps them in competition with European goods. Were these goods sent direct from an American port they would be disposed of to better advantage; and the use of them under such conditions would cause a steady and increasing demand. The promoters of the steamship line from Philadelphia to Africa have this outlook to encourage their enterprise, and it certainly justifies them in their attempt.

The chances for American enterprise in Africa are most excellent, but they must depend almost entirely upon direct communication with the United States. It would be too much to say that the smallness of American trade there is due to the lack of direct steam communication, and it would be ridiculous to declare that a large and growing commerce will follow immediately upon the establishment of a steamship line. The American will not be welcomed in Africa. It is a field from which it was hoped that he would be excluded. But as his necessities force him towards that field in precisely the same reasons as those of Europeans make them eager for it also, it is only reasonable to believe that a direct steamship line to Africa will give a strong encouragement to American commerce and by so doing create a business which will furnish it with ample support. All success, therefore, go with the Philadelphia enterprise.—*New York Maritime Register.*

THE STEAMSHIP BONNY.

The vessel, which was built by the Naval Construction and Armaments Company, limited, after a highly satisfactory trial trip, was delivered to the British and African Steam Navigation Company at Liverpool. The engines indicated 1,650 horse power, and the speed attained was 12 knots an hour, considerably over the contract requirements. There were present on the trial trip Mr. A. Elder, managing director, and Mr. C. Gibson, of the British and African S. N. Co.; Mr. A. Adamson, managing director of the N. C. and A. Co., and Mr. A. L. Jones, of Messrs. Elder, Dempster and Co., Liverpool. The Bonny is 328 feet

long, 39 feet 3 inches broad, and 25 feet 6 inches deep, and is built to the highest class at Lloyd's. She is constructed on the cellular double-bottom principle, and has two complete decks and a poop, bridge, and forecastle. The upper deck is a complete steel deck sheathed with wood. She is schooner rigged, with two steel pole masts and fore and aft sails, and is propelled by powerful vertical-inverted direct-acting, triple-expansion engines of the most improved type. Steam is supplied by two large single-ended steel boilers constructed for a working pressure of 160 lbs. per square inch. The vessel is designed as a first-class passenger and cargo steamer, and fitted with all the latest improvements for the African trade. On the upper deck, under the bridge, arrangements are made for 45 first-class passengers, including saloon, state-rooms, ladies' cabin, pantries, etc., also for engineers' rooms, and mess, galley, store-rooms, donkey boiler, bath-rooms, w.c.'s, etc. The arrangements for the accommodation of passengers are of the most approved type, the saloon being commodious for a vessel of this class, and she is particularly well lighted and ventilated. The second-class passengers are accommodated in the poop, as well as the ship's officers, stewards, etc. The vessel has a complete installation of electric lighting.

The continued increase in the quantity and quality of the vessels engaged in the African trade is an indication of the great things which may be expected in future in this direction, and the British and African Steam Navigation Company and its directors may be congratulated on having secured a steamer which, as a combined passenger and cargo boat, may be favorably compared with any leaving the Mersey.—*Liverpool Journal of Commerce*.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN LIBERIA.

At the general election held in Liberia on the 5th of May, Hon. John J. Cheeseman, of Grand Bassa County, was elected President, and Hon. W. D. Coleman, of Montserrado County, was chosen Vice-President, by an overwhelming majority. Mr. Cheeseman, who was born and educated in Liberia and is now a leading merchant, will assume the reins of government in January next. Under his guidance Liberia will continue her course along the paths of success.

RAILROAD AND TELEGRAPH CONSTRUCTION IN
SOUTH AFRICA.

The great progress of civilization is marked in nothing more rapidly than in the vast extent of the railroads built or contemplated. At this time thousands of men are at work in different regions leveling a course for them. The rapids of the Congo will soon be passed by a railroad from Matadi, at the head of navigation in the lower Congo, 240 miles to Stanley Pool, which is at the foot of steam navigation in the upper Congo river and its great affluents, through which steamers of different sizes may be run for 5,000 miles. So that when this railroad is built there will be steam communication by this route right into the very heart of Africa.

The work is being pushed by a force of about a thousand blacks directed by about one hundred whites, says the *Boston Transcript*. Before next spring it is expected that the worst part will be completed and locomotives running through the Moose valley to the plains above. After crossing this valley the road will run on a plateau several miles south of the Congo all the way to Stanley Pool. Here it can be easily constructed. In South Africa 3,000 men are leveling the roadbed for a railway from the diamond fields of Kimberly north toward the Zambesi, through a country which was only visited by hunters and missionaries a few years ago.

These laborers are accompanied by hundreds of wagons loaded with various kinds of implements, explosives, and everything required in road-building. Such scenes of bustling activity are altogether new in these regions. The road is already completed for 125 miles from Kimberly to Vryburg, and it is expected that it will be extended 100 miles more between now and next spring to Mafeking, a prosperous town with a bank, a newspaper, and a thriving trade, where a few years ago was only the home of a native chief.

Kimberly is a future railroad center. It has now a road that connects it with Cape Town on the south, and another pushing toward the east, besides the one mentioned going north. The eastern railroad runs through the Orange Free State, and before

long will extend to Pretoria, the capital of the South African Republic. A Dutch syndicate has taken a contract to build a railroad to join Petroria with the Portuguese line from Delagoa Bay on the east coast. When these are finished Kimberly will have direct railroad communication with both the east and south coasts. In a short time the railroad from Natal will be completed from the south coast to the Transvaal frontier, and thence to the capital of the Boer Republic.

These railroads will be the main channel of communication which will extend in every direction through an elevated country abounding with everything essential to comfort. The Portuguese are soon to build a railroad from the head of the navigable waters of the Busi river on the east coast to the gold fields of Manica. It is said that the Germans have about decided upon the route of their road, which is to connect one of the coast ports with Mount Kilimanjaro, near the edge of that enormous plateau where the cattle thrive. The British are already building their line, which will meet the German road at the great mountain and then push over the plains and through the forests to the shores of Victoria Nyanza.

Some forty or fifty miles of this line will soon be in operation, and the British road will doubtless have the distinction of being the first to connect the heart of Africa with the sea-coast. For some time there has been a railroad in operation from St. Paul de Loanda almost to Malange, running through the Portuguese province of Angola. Soon this will extend to the rich mountainous coffee district of Cazengo, which will then be but a day's ride from Loanda, which has the best harbor on the west coast.

The work of building the telegraphs has far exceeded the railroad enterprise. A telegraph line will soon be finished which will reach the new capital of King Khama, 1,700 miles in an air line northeast of Cape Town; 260 wagons, each drawn by ten or twelve yoke of oxen, have taken their way to the north loaded with nothing but telegraph wires. To support the whites now engaged in these tasks and the 700 armed men sent by the Imperial British South African Company to open Mashonaland, 1,500,000 pounds of provisions have been carted. The most

glowing reports are made of the healthful climate and of the riches in gold and agricultural resources of this Mashonaland.

No recent enterprises of the sort surpass in magnitude, or in the energy with which they are being pressed forward, these railroad and telegraphic projects now far advanced in South Africa. Mashonaland is called the El Dorado of Africa because no other part of inner Africa holds out the same promise of a bounteous return for white enterprises.

Soon Mount Hampden, the most northern station in Mashonaland, will be connected with Cape Town by telegraph, while the railroad that is being built to the new capital of King Khama will be extended into this new white territory.

THE PEOPLE OF CENTRAL AFRICA.

BY CAPT. E. C. HORE, F. R. G. S.

Of the many tribes in Central Africa, the chief divisions are the Negro, the Bantu, and the Abyssinian type, or Wahuma and their mixtures. On the shores of lake Tanganyika, a very central position, there are at least nine several tribes with distinctive physical characteristics, language, art, designs, and fashions in weapons, clothing, architecture, and domestic utensils. The widest distinctions, perhaps, are between the wandering pastoral Wahuma, possessing splendid symmetry of form and feature, lighter complexion, and a preference for skin clothing, and the tribes related to the Negro further west, essentially agricultural. These latter are spinners and weavers, and have a keen appetite for trade. There are also tribes distinguished as warlike and peaceful without apparent cause in their way of life or geographical position. Central Africa is not so essentially the region of powerful chiefs and leaders as either the north or the south of the continent, and the individual members of the tribes are more independent. All, owing to the necessity created by neighborhood to rivers or lakes, become expert canoeists and fishermen, cleverly making and using hooks, the seine net, the cast net, and the hand net, as well as many forms of fish traps, from a huge cage of four divisions, six

feet high, sunk to the bottom of the water and buoyed with a bundle of logs, to the tiny basket like a strawberry bottle, the venture of a small boy. Pitfalls, traps of many kinds, and nets are used to capture game. Iron is mined, smelted, wrought, and drawn in every needed form nearly everywhere, in what to Europeans would seem impossible circumstances. Copper is smelted where it is found. Spinning and weaving are well understood, and (though by most primitive methods) excellent thick cotton cloth, and cloth or matting of Raphia fibre, are thus produced. Iron, in the form of hoes ready for use, as such, or as material for the manufacture of tools, weapons, or ornaments; copper in small pigs or little bars ready for the smith; ivory, India-rubber, salt, palm oil, dried fish, etc., are packed and circulated for very long distances. Pottery is made nearly everywhere, and only needs the potter's wheel and a hint or two as to glaze, etc., to develop into a valuable industry. Many native plants supply abundant potash, which, together with the palm oil (which would scarcely pay for transport to the coast), supply means for soap and candle manufacture in the interior.

The native character may be described as infantile. In confidence and suspicion, in easy anger and easy reconciliation, in rapid demoralization under evil influence, in undeveloped intellect, in unenlightened spiritual instincts run into feticism, in unknown yet assuredly-existing possibilities for good—they are essentially children. They are adult neither in wisdom nor wickedness, but will become so as they are trained. It is a promising infancy, more so than that of many past and present—certainly more promising than ours was—but stunted in its growth. The wonder is, not that these races have not grown, but that they still possess what they do—of arts and industries, of social and moral order, and of courage. Throughout the ages they have repelled the invading wave of conquering civilization more successfully than we have and remain—in the dark!

I have lived in Africa long enough—ten years—to assure myself that many a so-called “savage attack” by African natives was, in reality, “a gallant defense” from their point of view; that the drunken low-type African of whom we hear, is often but a noble

savage degraded, not by descent, but by contact with the direct demoralization of people of a lower type. In the far interior, tested too often only by fire and sword or the rapid advance under arms of the unexplained enterprises of strangers, he is often described as incorrigibly savage. During the last ten or twelve years, however, many of the tribes of the far interior have had the friendly test applied to them by men and women living amongst them, and it has been discovered, by that test, that they are people of very much the same passions as we ourselves, and that, though easily degraded, they are also quite capable, when surrounded by favoring circumstances, of rising in civilization and in intellectual grasp of higher and better things.

In all our schemes for civilizing Africa and opening it up to commerce, we must consider well the character of the natives. We must also consider their numbers and their staying and recuperative power. It has already been well proved, that, given peace and plenty, even though native dynasties are upset and society quite convulsed, the Africans increase rapidly. We must calculate in Africa upon dealing not with dying races of men, like the Australian or American aborigines, nor with those of ever-wavering and mysterious adult prejudices and clogged with ruins of a former civilization, like the Indian people,—but with a rapidly increasing family—so to speak—of healthy children, imitative, and eager to acquire. Easily guided they may be, but on that account the greater care is needed in controlling and influencing them. Central Africa is not a land for the European immigrant, but for civilized leaders, teachers, and capitalists. The Africans will fill it and work it.

THE FRENCH IN WEST AFRICA.

The French have been very active of late in the country between the Senegal and the Niger. They have also sent out explorers beyond these limits; the gunboats on the Niger have been sent to explore the Mayel Balevel, a tributary of the Niger on the southern side, and Lieutenant Caron has reached Timbuku. The area of the whole region under either the control or the pro-

tection of France, and stretching from the Sahara to the frontiers of Sierra Leone and Liberia, Colonel Gallieni estimates at some 270,000 square miles, with a population of some 3,000,000. Yet Colonel Gallieni is not satisfied. He would have his countrymen push down the Niger to Burrum Bussa, where barrier rocks are said to interrupt navigation, and thence establish communications with Sokoto. Should this proposal ever be converted into an accomplished fact, it is hardly necessary to say that the interests of the British establishments on the Niger would be seriously affected. Towards the south Colonel Gallieni wishes a junction to be formed with the French possessions on the Guinea coast. Most of the interior would then be in the hands of the French, who could control the trade and starve out, if they pleased, the colonies of the other European Powers on this coast.

A railway is in course of construction from Kayes, on the Senegal, through Bafulabé to Siguiri; it is now finished to Bafulabé (80 miles), and has caused a rapid development of the towns on its route.

The *Bulletin de la Société de Géographie de Marseille* announces the publication, in the *Journal Officiel*, of a decree by which the Rivières du Sud are formed into a separate administrative district. The duty of the Governor of Senegal towards this district will henceforth be confined to a general supervision of its political affairs. The new Lieutenant-Governor will also have authority over the French possessions on the Gold Coast and the Bight of Benin, which have hitherto been attached sometimes to Senegal and sometimes to the Gabun.

ITEMS OF INTELLIGENCE.

AMERICAN NEGROES FOR AFRICA.—Dr. Blyden, of Monrovia, Liberia, according to Goldthwaite's Geographical Magazine, believes the problem of the reclamation of Africa is to be solved through the agency of the civilized Negroes of America. In a reception tendered him at Lagos, Africa, this able and highly-educated member of the Negro race remarked: "To restore to their homes those who have been transported from the land of their origin by wickedness and greed of gain should be considered the highest duty of every Englishman, and I am happy to know that some decided steps have been taken to bring about this much-desired result."

Dr. Blyden says tropical Africa can not possibly be made the permanent home of white men. Even if they live there a few years they are ultimately compelled to leave the country. Their children born there are apt to be weak and sickly, and the white race can not maintain its vigor and activity in those regions. The colored people of the States and of Brazil, he thinks, would be the only best instruments for civilizing Africa. For about a year steamers have been plying between Bahia and Lagos, repatriating many former slaves from Brazil.

THE BRUSSELS' AGREEMENT.—June 25 the French Chamber of Deputies, by a vote of 439 to 104, refused to ratify the Brussels' agreement with reference to the suppression of the slave and liquor traffics in Africa. The Minister of Foreign Affairs and others urged the Chamber to accept the agreement, the Minister declaring truthfully that it was a question "of a work done absolutely in the interests of civilization." He affirmed that the "whole world has desired to contribute something of its generosity and power to the destruction of this horrible leprosy of slavery." But many members of the Chamber took offence at the provisions of the agreement in reference to the right of search by English ships, a point which has always been a sore one with the French, and one which in generations before this has stood in the way of diplomatic efforts for the suppression of the slave trade. On this ground the strong vote was obtained against the ratification of the agreement. We greatly fear that this action will not only prevent its ratification by other nations, but will altogether hinder further attempts at united action for the suppression of the two giant evils which threaten the welfare of Africa.

GREAT BRITAIN AND PORTUGAL IN AFRICA.—The Portuguese Cortes having confirmed the draft of the treaty made between Great Britain and Portugal relative to the boundaries between the territories of the two nations in Southeastern Africa, the treaty was signed at Lisbon on June 12. By the twelfth article of this new treaty the navigation of the Zambesi and the Shiré, including all their branches and outlets, is made entirely free for the ships of all nations, and the Portuguese Government "engages to permit and facilitate transit for all persons and goods of every description over the waterways of the Zambesi, the Shiré, the Pungwe, the Busi, the Limpopo, the Sabi, and their tributaries, and also over the landways which supply means of communication where these rivers are not navigable." This treaty was passed in the Cortes by a vote of 105 against 6, thus settling apparently a dispute which threatened to be serious and in such a way as to facilitate the opening of the rich and vast regions of South Africa. Free transit through the Zambesi, Shiré, and the Pungwe will afford all the opportunities that English and American missions may need for the entrance of missionaries into this portion of the "Dark Continent."

TRANSLATION OF THE BIBLE BY A FORMER SLAVE.—At the late anniversary of the American Bible Society Rev. Dr. Storrs said: "I hold in my hand now a translation in the Sheetswa dialect—I am perfectly bold in pronouncing that name 'Sheetswa,' because there is only one man in the room who can correct me if I am wrong, and he is so kind that I know he will not—in South Africa, translated by a missionary of the American Board, Rev. Mr. Onsley, who was himself born a slave, the slave of the brother of Jefferson Davis. He was set free by the emancipation edict of President Lincoln, and then determined to get an education and fit himself to administer the gospel at home or abroad. His wife was educated, like himself, at Oberlin. They are exceedingly intelligent and energetic Christian people, of sound sense, of great enthusiasm, and are stationed in East Africa, under the American Board, and it is his translation which I hold in my hand, just finished to-day—the translation of the first three gospels, Matthew, Mark, and Luke. The rest of the Scriptures are going on to be translated."

THE SOUTHERN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH has just opened a new station in the Congo Free State. The point selected is Boleke, on the Kassai river, the great southern tributary of the Congo, about a hundred miles above its junction with the Congo. Boleke is distant from the mouth of the Congo about 460 miles, 160 of which is overland travel. Two missionaries, Messrs. Lapsley and Sheppard, have already reached this remote out-post and begun their difficult work, and they will be joined this summer by Mr. Adamson, a mechanic who has already seen service on the Congo.

"ARMED BRETHREN OF THE SAHARA."—After a season of preparatory training, the first section of Cardinal Lavigerie's "Armed Brethren of the Sahara," or "Templars," as they may very properly be called; have been solemnly dedicated to their anti-slavery work at Biskra, an oasis on the borders of the great African desert. At their head is the Viscomte de Brissac, who after a wild career in Paris became a zealous and devoted son of the Roman Catholic Church. With him there are, at present, twelve others, all of whom, like their leader, have bound themselves to remain celibates, and in their present work for a period not less than five years. That work is to be the cultivation of dates and palms on the desert oases, and the opening and defense there of asylums for fugitive slaves escaping from the slave-trading caravans which are constantly crossing the desert. This work of course embraces a suitable care for the sick and wounded, their security in some way from violent seizure, and their earliest possible transportation to a more secure refuge. This first establishment will, if the proposed work proves successful, be succeeded by others on desert oases, or on the borders of the desert. It certainly is a noble work. How these

refugees are to be protected against the attacks of hostile slave caravans we can not see, unless we can find a solution of the problem, and we probably can, in the fact that these model Templars are all Frenchmen, who will find their protection under the French flag.

THE GABOON MISSION AND THE FRENCH.—The *Journal des Missions Évangéliques* for July contains the full report of the young missionary explorers, Messrs. Teissières and Allegret, as to the projected new mission to the French Congo. In conclusion they recommend: (1) The acceptance of the Gaboon mission now offered by the American Presbyterian Board to the French Society. This offer is occasioned by the demand of the French authorities, in whose territory the Gaboon mission is situated, that all teaching shall be in the French language. (2) That the Gaboon mission, thus acquired, should become the base of missionary labor among the interior tribes bordering upon the river Ogowe, which takes its rise hundreds of miles inland. The directorate of the Société des Missions assents to these conclusions, but refers the matter to the French Protestant churches. No new work can be undertaken without a great advance in their contributions.

A STEAMER FOR THE CONGO.—The fleet of vessels on the upper river is to receive an addition in the *Goodwill*, a steamer built for the Congo mission of the English Baptist Society. The vessel which has been in use since 1882, the *Peace*, has rendered invaluable service, but is not large enough nor swift enough for present purposes. The new vessel, the *Goodwill*, is to be 84 feet long and 13 feet beam. Every particle of the vessel, hull, boilers, engines, and all, will have to be carried on men's shoulders some 230 miles over a very hilly road. The *Herald* of the Baptist Society reports that their work extends more than 900 miles from the base at Leopoldville. As yet more than 1,000 miles of the waterways of the Congo valley have never been visited by a missionary, and 2,000 miles have been traversed very hurriedly, so that there is a great work for these missionary vessels to do.

GERMAN-AFRICAN ASSOCIATION.—One of the most powerful private associations to which the recent anti-slavery movement has given birth is the African Association of German Catholics. *L'Afrique* reports that this Association holds many public meetings in different cities, publishes a journal—*God will es*—and has 10 diocesan committees, comprising 1,500 circles and about 200,000 members. The central council at Cologne has received more than \$130,000 in money. This to be spent in African expeditions, in founding safe retreats for threatened Negroes, in missions, orphan houses, etc., all over the German African possessions. Six thousand dollars have been given to aid in the transport of the first German steamer for the Victoria Nyanza.

THE BANTU LANGUAGES cover nearly all of the southern half of Africa. They are also closely related in grammatical structure and usage; and while there are 168 languages and fifty-five dialects in this group, it is probable that the number which will survive the changes in the development of Africa, and in which it will be necessary to print the Bible and carry on missionary work, will be under the first figure. In the Baptist Mission on the Congo there are a number of dialects, and books are being published in several of them. But Rev. Joseph Clark, of Palabala, says that in a recent trip on the upper river he was quite readily understood. It is very important that these dialects be reduced to as few as possible in printing the Scriptures, and this will also be helpful in the development of the people in the future.

THE KATANGA COMPANY.—There is a vast region in central equatorial Africa, which, by the treaties, is included in the Congo Free State, but which that State has never explored and in which it exercises no authority. This district lies west of lakes Bangweolo and Moero, and east of the Portuguese province of Angola. In this region are the headwaters of both the Congo and the Zambesi. The river Lomami, which is the largest southern tributary of the Congo, gives access to a greater portion of this territory. The Congo Free State, on March 12, 1891, signed an agreement making a concession to a company which bears the name of the "Company of Katanga," giving it certain rights in this vast region. It is expected that this company will put steamers on the rivers and on the lakes Moero and Bangweolo, and that commercial posts will be established. This company takes alternate blocks of territory as its own, leaving the unassigned blocks to the Free States. It promises to give its most active help to the suppression of the traffic in slaves and spirituous liquors and firearms. It proposes to raise a capital of \$600,000. Already an expedition of the company is within the limits of Katauga. The second expedition which is to follow soon will be under the lead of Commander Cameron, the well-known African explorer.

BRITISH EAST AFRICA—It is announced by the Gotha *Mittheilungen* that Mr. F. J. Jackson, agent of the British East Africa Company, has concluded an expedition which has had important geographical results. He has reached Uganda by a new route, across the Masai country, arriving at the northeast angle of Victoria Nyauza. He ascended, on the way, a volcanic mountain called Elgon, and discovered a chain of lakes extending from Elgon to the river Nile. This expedition has made the curious discovery that the birds of the Elgon region belong to the fauna of Western Africa, not, as would have been expected, to that of Abyssinia or East Africa.

RAILWAYS FOR GERMAN EAST AFRICA.—The *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* states that General Caprivi, the Imperial Chancellor, has sanctioned the contract concluded by the German East Africa Company for the construction of the railway in the Usambara district to be laid between Tanga on the coast to Koragwe. Engineers leave at an early day in order to undertake the necessary preliminary work in connection with the line.

THE CONGO FREE STATE, in addition to the magnificent endowment of King Leopold, is subsidized to the extent of £80,000 a year by the Belgian government.

RECEIPTS OF THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY,

During the Month of June, 1891.

FLORIDA. (\$5.00.)		<i>Pinnacle Springs</i> —H. G. Bailly, \$3;	
<i>Williston</i> .—William Foster, toward		Henry Williams, \$1.50, and I. V.	
cost of emigrant passage.....	\$5 00	Logan, \$1.50, toward cost of emi-	
		grant passage.....	\$5 00
MISSISSIPPI. (\$1.00.)		RECAPITULATION.	
<i>Bellevue</i> .—J. M. Ferguson, toward		Rent of Colonization Building.....	65 00
cost of emigrant passage.....	1 00	Applicants toward passage	45 25
ARKANSAS. (\$42.25.)		Interest for schools in Liberia.....	226 25
<i>Morrilton</i> .—R. T. Black, \$2; Ab-		Total Receipts in June	\$342 50
ner Downs, \$26; and Rev. L. Rog-			
ers, \$8.25, toward cost of emigrant			
passage.....	36 25		

During the Month of July, 1891.

NEW HAMPSHIRE. (\$5.00)		<i>Dixie</i> .—Reuben Hunt, toward	
<i>Portsmouth</i> .—Rev. Alfred L. Elwyn,		cost of emigrant passage.....	\$14 00
donation	\$5 00	FOR AFRICAN REPOSITORY.	
VIRGINIA. (\$1.00.)		Virginia, \$1; Texas, \$1.....	2 00
<i>Alexandria</i> .—Mrs. Mary B. Black-		RECAPITULATION.	
ford, donation.....	1 00	Donations.....	6 00
ARKANSAS. (\$95.75.)		Donovan Income.....	253 10
<i>Menifee</i> .—A. Y. Turner, \$50, and		For African Repository.....	2 00
W. K. Fortson, \$11.75, toward cost		Rent of Colonization Building.....	286 00
of emigrant passage.....	61 75	Applicants toward passage.....	95 75
<i>Morrilton</i> .—Albert Downs, \$15,		Theodore Lewis Mason, M. D., fund.	25 00
and Andrew Ficklin, \$5, toward		Total Receipts in July.....	\$669 94
cost of emigrant passage.....	20 00		

During the Month of August, 1891.

FLORIDA. (\$10 00.)		<i>Wooster</i> .—Rev. S. J. Jenkins, to-	
<i>Lady Lake</i> .—R. H. Hart, toward		ward cost of emigrant passage.....	\$11 00
cost of emigrant passage.....	\$10 00	<i>Plummerville</i> .—John Alexander, to-	
MISSISSIPPI. (\$1.00.)		ward cost of emigrant passage.....	5 00
<i>Bellevue</i> .—Richard Talbott, toward		RECAPITULATION.	
cost of emigrant passage.....	1 00	Rent of Colonization Building.....	125 00
ARKANSAS. (\$55.00.)		Applicants toward passage	55 00
<i>Little Rock</i> .—R. P. Davis, toward		Total Receipts in August.....	\$186 00
cost of emigrant passage.....	31 00		

EMIGRATION TO LIBERIA.

So numerous have the applications become, that THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY will hereafter give the preference, all other things being equal, to those who will pay a part of the cost of their passage and settlement in Liberia. Persons wishing to remove to that Republic should make application, giving their name, age, and circumstances, addressed to WILLIAM COPPINGER, Secretary and Treasurer, Colonization Rooms, Washington, D. C.

FORM OF REQUEST.

I give and bequeath to THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY the sum of _____dollars.

(If the bequest is of personal or real estate, so describe it that it can be easily identified.)

EDUCATION IN LIBERIA.

THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY is ready to receive, invest, and set apart, for the promotion of common-school education in Liberia, all such sum or sums of money as may be given or bequeathed to it for that purpose.

Funds for LIBERIA COLLEGE may be remitted to CHARLES E. STEVENS, Esq., Treasurer, Boston and Albany R. R. Co., Kneeland street, Boston. The best form of donations and bequests is "THE TRUSTEES OF DONATIONS FOR EDUCATION IN LIBERIA."

THE AFRICAN REPOSITORY:

Published quarterly by the AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY; is intended to record the Society's proceedings, and all movements for the civilization and evangelization of Africa. It is sent, without charge, when requested, to the officers of the Society and of its Auxiliaries, to life members, and to annual contributors of ten dollars and upward to the funds of the Society. To subscribers it is supplied at One Dollar per annum, payable in advance. Orders or remittances for it should be sent to WILLIAM COPPINGER, Secretary and Treasurer, Colonization Rooms, Washington, D. C.

INFORMATION ABOUT GOING TO LIBERIA.

THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY is constantly receiving letters in which the following questions are, in substance, asked. It has therefore condensed the facts in reply, as follows:

Question 1. At what season of the year is it best to embark for Liberia?

Answer 1. Vessels usually leave this country in the Spring and Fall for Liberia. There is very little, if any, choice between these two seasons of the year as a time to arrive in that Republic.

Q. 2. How long is the voyage, and is there much danger that we shall be lost on the way?

A. 2. Thirty-five days is the average length of a voyage to Liberia. In seventy years, during which there have been nearly two hundred emigrations, there has not been a case of loss or disaster.

Q. 3. What ought we to take with us, both for use on the voyage and after we get there?

A. 3. Every emigrant ought to be well supplied with clothing similar to that which he wears in this country. The heat is not so oppressive as in America during the summer. There is no winter in Liberia, but during the rainy season health is preserved and promoted by wearing flannel or warm clothing. He ought also to have a good mattress and bed-clothes, which he will need to use on shipboard and after landing. If he is a mechanic, he ought to have the tools of his trade. If he is a farmer, he ought to be well supplied with axes, hoes, spades, saws, augers, &c. He should also be provided with cotton-gins, a loom, portable furniture, and ploughs, condensed for storage. And, as every family is expected to keep house and live by themselves, they ought to have table furniture and cooking utensils. It is not possible to take chairs, tables, bedsteads, and other large articles of furniture with them, as they occupy too much room in the ship. But whatever is convenient and necessary in housekeeping and of small compass they ought to take. A keg of nails (4, 6, 8 and 10-penny), a bale or two of domestics, and some specie or gold coin and "greenbacks," would be of use to them in erecting their houses and paying for any labor they might need during the first few months of their residence in Liberia. Seeds of every kind, especially of our common vegetables, put up air-tight, should be taken.

Q. 4. How much land is given to each emigrant?

A. 4. Each grown single person receives ten acres of land and each family twenty-five acres. The soil in Liberia is as rich and productive as in any part of the world.

Q. 5. Can I educate my children there, and what will it cost?

A. 5. By a law of Liberia, all parents are required to send their children to school. In some of the settlements the schools are good. The natives are at peace with the Liberians, and are generally anxious to have their children educated.

Q. 6. How can I make a living in Liberia?

A. 6. In the same way that you would make one anywhere else; that is, by industry and economy. During the first six months after arrival in Liberia you become acclimated, and can open and plant your land, build a house on it, raise a crop, and have everything in readiness to live comfortably thereafter. Blacksmiths, carpenters, masons, brick-makers, cabinet-makers, slip-wrights, &c., &c., find employment at good wages. The farmer need fear no want.

Q. 7. What assistance will the American Colonization Society render me in getting to Liberia?

A. 7. The average cost of every emigrant is one hundred dollars, of which \$50 is for passage and support and \$50 for rations and shelter during the first six months after arrival in Liberia. Toward this outlay, which is borne by the American Colonization Society, the preference is accorded such applicants, all other things being equal, as will contribute the most money, that the same may assist others to go there also. This must be sent to the Society, and an order for passage obtained before the people leave their homes, as without it they will not be received on the vessel. Emigrants are required to reach the ship at their own expense. What the Society does for emigrants is a free gift to them, never to be returned.